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Examiner: Joseph L. Perrin
Group Art Unit: 1746

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended): A method according to claim 137, wherein said contacting occurs by spraying.
4. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 137, wherein vapor is used to raise the temperature and relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container.
5. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 137, further comprising the step of allowing the temperature within the interior void space to decrease to a third temperature wherein the third temperature is less than about 45°C.
6. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 137, wherein the container further comprises:
 - a) a heating element
 - b) a humidity provider, preferably a passive humidity controller capable of changing and maintaining the relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container;
 - c) a vent and/or filter; and
 - d) an air circulation device.
7. (Original): The method according to claim 6, wherein the container further comprises

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an active temperature controller capable of changing and maintaining the air temperature within the interior void space of the container.

8. (Original): The method according to claim 6, wherein the container further comprises a passive humidity controller capable of changing and maintaining the relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the vent remains open at all times.

10. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 437, wherein vapor is introduced into the interior void space of the container ~~comprises comprising~~ water and a perfume.

11. (Original): The method according to claim 6, wherein the air circulation device is a fan and the fan inlet is within the interior void space of the container so that at least a portion of the air within the void space of the container is recirculated.

12. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 437, wherein the first temperature is at least about 45°C.

13. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 437, wherein the second temperature is greater than T as defined by the equation: $T = 60 - (0.17 * RH_2)$ wherein RH_2 is the second relative humidity in percent.

14. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 13, wherein RH_2 is at least 50%.

15. (Previously presented): The method according to claim 13, wherein the second temperature is less than about 45°C.

Claims 16-32 (Canceled)

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33. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 4-37 wherein a cartridge containing a cleaning and refreshing composition is introduced into the interior void space of the container, and the cleaning and ~~refreshment~~ refreshing composition is released from the cartridge into the interior void space of the container.

Claims 34-35 (Cancelled)

36. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 4-37 wherein the ~~garments~~ fabric articles are stretched or tensioned prior to the start of the cycle.

37. (New) A method for treating a fabric article comprising the steps of:
placing the fabric article in a container having an opening and at least one wall that defines an interior void space;
contacting said fabric with a pre-treatment composition prior to said fabric being placed within the container;
raising the temperature and relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container to a predetermined first temperature and a predetermined first relative humidity for a predetermined first period of time; and
changing at least one of the temperature or the relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container at the end of the first period of time to at least one of a predetermined second temperature or a predetermined second relative humidity for a predetermined second period of time.

38. (New) A method for treating a fabric article comprising the steps of:
placing the fabric article in a container having an opening and at least one wall that defines an interior void space;
raising the temperature and relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container to a predetermined first temperature and a predetermined first relative humidity for a predetermined first period of time;

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raising at least one of the temperature or the relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container at the end of the first period of time to at least one of a predetermined second temperature or a predetermined second relative humidity for a predetermined second period of time; and

decreasing the temperature of the air within the interior void space of the container at the end of the second period of time to a predetermined third temperature for a predetermined third period of time.

39. (New): The method according to claim 38, wherein vapor is used to raise the temperature and relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container.

40. (New): The method according to claim 38, wherein the third temperature is less than about 45°C.

41. (New): The method according to claim 38, wherein the container further comprises:

- a) a heating element
- b) a humidity provider, preferably a humidity controller capable of changing and maintaining the relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container;
- c) a vent and/or filter; and
- d) an air circulation device.

42. (New): The method according to claim 41, wherein the container further comprises an active temperature controller capable of changing and maintaining the air temperature within the interior void space of the container.

43. (New): The method according to claim 41, wherein the container further comprises a passive humidity controller capable of changing and maintaining the relative humidity of the air within the interior void space of the container.

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44. (New) The method according to claim 6, wherein the vent remains open at all times.
45. (New): The method according to claim 38, wherein vapor is introduced into the interior void space of the container comprising water and a perfume.
46. (New): The method according to claim 41, wherein the air circulation device is a fan and the fan inlet is within the interior void space of the container so that at least a portion of the air within the void space of the container is recirculated.
47. (New): The method according to claim 38, wherein the first temperature is at least about 45°C.
48. (New): The method according to claim 38, wherein the second temperature is greater than T as defined by the equation: $T = 60 - (0.17 * RH_2)$ wherein RH_2 is the second relative humidity in percent.
49. (New): The method according to claim 48, wherein RH_2 is at least 50%.
50. (New): The method according to claim 48, wherein the second temperature is less than about 45°C.
51. (New): The method according to claim 38 wherein a cartridge containing a cleaning and refreshing composition is introduced into the interior void space of the container, and the cleaning and refreshing composition is released from the cartridge into the interior void space of the container.
52. (New): The method according to claim 38 wherein the fabric articles are stretched or tensioned prior to the start of the cycle.